



Crop Report

Published by the Ministry of Agriculture

ISSN 0701 7085

Report Number 24, September 15, 2008

Crop Report for September 14, 2008

Thirty-nine per cent of the 2008 crop has been harvested, up from 22 per cent last week, according to Saskatchewan Agriculture's weekly crop report. The five-year (2003-07) average is 58 per cent harvested.

Harvesting is furthest advanced in the southwest where 49 per cent of the crop is off, and is least advanced in the northwest where 20 per cent of the crop is off. All areas need warm, dry weather to advance harvesting operations.

Harvesting progress varies significantly between the major crops, with spring wheat at 25 per cent complete, durum at 28 per cent, canola at 33 per cent, lentils at 85 per cent, and peas at 92 per cent.

Weathering, migrating birds, grasshoppers, and sawflies caused the majority of the crop damage reported during the past week.

Other fieldwork includes seeding fall crops, spraying, baling straw, and hauling bales.

For further information contact:
Terry Bedard, P.Ag.
Agricultural Economist
Policy Branch
Ministry of Agriculture
306-787-5956

Available on the Ministry of
Agriculture Internet site at:
www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca

Please let us know if you no longer need to receive a printed copy.

1 Year Ago

Two-thirds of the 2008 harvest was done, ranging from 95 per cent in the southwest to 31 per cent in the northeast.

Frost and wind caused the majority of the crop damage.

Sask. harvesting progress

	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	91	78
Fall rye	94	89
Spring wheat	25	11
Durum	28	13
Oats	21	8
Barley	45	19
Triticale	53	53
Flax	4	1
Canola	33	11
Mustard	52	30
Sunflowers	19	19
Lentils	85	66
Peas	92	81
Canary seed	7	1
Chickpeas	31	23
Total	39	22



South eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 1, 2, & 3ase)

South eastern harvesting progress		
	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	92	92
Fall rye	97	90
Spring wheat	32	17
Durum	33	14
Oats	24	15
Barley	55	38
Triticale	50	0
Flax	4	1
Canola	45	26
Mustard	66	26
Sunflowers	22	22
Lentils	94	84
Peas	93	91
Canary seed	8	1
Chickpeas	59	53
Total	45	30

The south eastern region had somewhat better harvest weather this past week, though there was some rain, drizzle, and fog. An average of 2 mm of precipitation was reported, with an average high of 7 mm in Crop District (CD) 1a. Weathering damage, including bleaching, staining, mildew, and sprouting was reported across the region. Frost damage was reported in the Stoughton, Kennedy, and Grenfell areas. Some flooding damage was reported in the Maryfield area. Wind damage was reported in the Weyburn, Minton, and Ceylon areas.

Forty-five per cent of the 2008 south eastern crop has been harvested and a further 31% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight-combined. Aeration fans and grain dryers are in use. Green second-growth continues to cause problems in harvesting.

Canola was averaging over 40 bu/acre in the Wawota area. Barley samples in the Zehner area looked good and are expected to be malt quality.

Crop land dried this past week. Eight per cent is rated as having surplus topsoil moisture, down from 25% last week. There were moisture problems with some combines getting stuck in the Tantallon area, even with the dry week. Conditions were similar to last week on hay and pasture land with 95% of the land rated as having adequate topsoil.

Grasshoppers damaged crops in the Stoughton and Midale areas. Sawflies damaged crops in the Montmartre, Briercrest, Moose Jaw, Minton, and Ceylon areas. Ergot was found in crops in the Weyburn, Montmartre, and Ceylon areas.

Fall rye and winter wheat were seeded in the Frobisher area. Some second-cut haying as well as bale hauling took place. Desiccation of flax crops continues.

South western Saskatchewan (CDs 3asw, 3an, 3b, & 4)

The past week was drier in the southwest, although some frost, heavy dews, and damp conditions did occur. An average of 7 mm of precipitation was reported, with an average high of 13 mm in CD 4a. Damage from this and last week's rain, including bleaching and sprouting

was reported across the region. Frost, drought, and wind damage were reported from several areas in the southwest. Damage from flooding was reported in the Fife Lake, Bengough, Shaunavon, Webb, and Gull Lake areas. Wind damage, including shelling out and scattering of swaths, was reported in the Viceroy and Mankota areas. In some areas, the pods are splitting as they swell up with moisture after they have dried down.

South western harvesting progress		
	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	92	83
Fall rye	96	92
Spring wheat	32	23
Durum	29	17
Oats	52	40
Barley	58	38
Triticale	63	63
Flax	2	0
Canola	78	48
Mustard	70	51
Sunflowers	n/a	0
Lentils	83	57
Peas	97	90
Canary seed	7	1
Chickpeas	16	9
Total	49	36

Forty-nine per cent of the 2008 south western crop has been combined and a further 23% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight-combined. Some crops will need to be dried.

In the Lafleche area, test weights on wheat ranged from 57 to 65 pounds, and yields were disappointing on many fields. In the Mossbank area, early-seeded crops will be of poorer quality than later-seeded, standing crops. In the Kincaid area, the

durum was weighing in at 56 pounds, with protein up to 18.5%. In the Ponteix area, most of last Thursday's grain was taken off at 16 – 17% moisture, and Friday at 15 – 16%.

Topsoil moisture conditions continue to improve with the showers, although harvest is delayed. Over 80% of the crop land and almost 70% of the hay and pasture land are rated as having adequate topsoil moisture.

Sawflies caused crop damage across the region, particularly in the Assiniboia area. Grasshoppers damaged crops in the Rockglen, Ponteix, Glenbain, Webb, and Stewart Valley areas. Farmers are spraying for grasshoppers on lentils in the Stewart Valley area, and grasshoppers are also showing up in harvested grain.

Some fall-seeded crops are emerging in the Kyle area. Winter wheat was seeded near Central Butte and Shaunavon. In the Ponteix area, the large number of grasshoppers is concerning producers getting ready to seed fall crops. Most of the winter wheat is seeded in the Admiral area. Fall rye was being seeded in the Maple Creek area.

In the Limerick area, many livestock owners are feeding their animals, and dugouts are dry or near dry. In the Central Butte area, farmers are starting to put up fall hay. In the Ponteix area, there is a lot of frustration among farmers trying to get fall

chemicals – prices are up again and some Edge retailers are having trouble getting product.

Farmers are hauling hay, cutting and baling sloughs, and continuing with desiccation.

East central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 5 & 6a)

East central harvesting progress		
	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	90	69
Fall rye	97	89
Spring wheat	18	5
Durum	18	4
Oats	16	4
Barley	49	17
Triticale	26	16
Flax	4	0
Canola	30	5
Mustard	33	9
Sunflowers	0	0
Lentils	84	57
Peas	87	67
Canary seed	1	0
Chickpeas	31	27
Total	34	14

The east central region saw cool, slow drying weather early in the week, then warming up and becoming better harvest weather by the end of the week. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported, with an average high of 2 mm in CD 5b. There was some weathering damage in the region, including staining, bleaching, and sprouting. Frost damage was reported in the Kelvington and Nokomis areas. Wind damaged crops in the Earl Grey and Imperial areas.

Thirty-four per cent of the 2008 east central crop has been harvested and a further 48% is

lying in the swath or is ready to be straight-combined. Grain needs to be dried in many cases. Hail damaged crops are still green in the region. Heavy dews prevent farmers from combining early in the morning.

Topsoil moisture conditions dried on hay and pasture land. Eighty-two per cent is rated as having adequate topsoil moisture, compared with 91% last week. Water in fields in the Wroxton/Calder area is still a challenge for farmers.

Migrating ducks and geese damaged crops in the Kelliher, Foam Lake, Nokomis and Kelvington areas. There was some fusarium in wheat and durum in the Abernethy area. There was ergot in wheat in the Kamsack area.

There was some winter wheat seeded in the Saltcoats area. Some seeding of fall crops took place in the Ituna area. Winter wheat was seeded in the Holdfast area as farmers were able to get their canola off. Some farmers were baling straw.

West central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 6b & 7)

The west central region was cool until later in the week. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported, with an average high of 2 mm in CD 6b. Frost damage was reported in the Eston, Herschel, Biggar, and Unity areas. Hail damage was

reported in the Major area. Damage from weathering, including sprouting, was reported in the Outlook and Biggar areas.

West central harvesting progress		
	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	96	89
Fall rye	99	92
Spring wheat	20	5
Durum	20	3
Oats	10	3
Barley	34	8
Triticale	20	0
Flax	1	0
Canola	42	12
Mustard	27	6
Sunflowers	0	0
Lentils	78	63
Peas	93	80
Canary seed	5	1
Chickpeas	44	19
Total	37	18

Thirty-seven per cent of the 2008 west central crop has been harvested and a further 42% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight-combined. Grain was coming off tough. Farmers are still waiting for the green in the crops to turn.

Yields on the east side of R.M. 288 are disappointing, while the west side had some good yields, for example lentils over 2000 lbs./acre.

Topsoil moisture conditions dried this past week. Fifty-seven per cent of the hay and pasture land was rated as having adequate topsoil moisture, compared to 71% last week.

Wheat midge and ergot damage showed up in the Hanley area; there was sawfly damage in the Rosetown area; and damage from migrating birds and game in

the Grandora, Outlook, Rosthern, and Marengo areas.

Most of the fall rye and winter wheat has now been planted in the Conquest area. Farmers were baling greenfeed and straw.

North eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 8 & 9ae)

North eastern harvesting progress		
	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	91	91
Fall rye	92	82
Spring wheat	44	19
Durum	13	3
Oats	31	9
Barley	49	19
Triticale	40	0
Flax	0	0
Canola	29	11
Mustard	18	6
Sunflowers	n/a	n/a
Lentils	84	56
Peas	85	72
Canary seed	17	2
Chickpeas	n/a	n/a
Total	40	18

The north eastern region saw cool, cloudy weather until the end of the week. An average of 2 mm of precipitation was reported, with an average high of 8 mm in CD 9ae. Wind damage was reported in the Arbourfield, Tisdale, and Vonda areas.

Forty per cent of the 2008 north eastern crop has been harvested and a further 50% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight-combined. Grain is being dried.

Topsoil moisture conditions are drier than last week. Sixty per cent of the hay and pasture

land is rated as having adequate topsoil moisture, compared to 68% last week.

There was ergot in the spring wheat in the Codette area.

Some fall rye and winter wheat were sown in the Vonda area, though there is concern about germination because of short soil moisture. Farmers were baling straw and dried out sloughs.

North western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 9aw & 9b)

North western harvesting progress		
	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	89	79
Fall rye	69	57
Spring wheat	13	4
Durum	n/a	n/a
Oats	9	4
Barley	18	5
Triticale	0	0
Flax	4	0
Canola	16	2
Mustard	25	n/a
Sunflowers	n/a	n/a
Lentils	n/a	n/a
Peas	86	62
Canary seed	n/a	n/a
Chickpeas	n/a	n/a
Total	20	10

The north western region had poor drying weather this past week. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported. Frost damage was reported in the Mayfair, Medstead, and Turtleford areas. Wind damage was reported in the North Battleford area. Hail damage was reported in the Turtleford area.

Twenty per cent of the 2008 north western crop has been combined and a further 50% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight-combined. Many crops needed to be dried.

Most yields look good in the Spiritwood area. The crop reporter in the Barthel area heard of one barley field that ran 113 bu/acre.

Topsoil moisture conditions got drier during the past week. Sixty-two per cent of the hay and pasture land was rated as having adequate topsoil moisture, compared with 69% last week.

Grasshoppers damaged crops in the North Battleford area. There are some geese in the Medstead area, but damage is unknown as of yet.

Winter wheat seeding has begun in the Neilburg area. Some farmers are doing a second cut of hay.

Growing Degree Days Above 5°C

calculations based on temperatures given by crop reporters

R.M.	Since April 1		Sep 7 - 13	Total
3	1451	*	57.5	1508.5
17A	1319.5	*		1319.5
38A			53.55	
38B			52	
43A	1558.5		57.9	1616.4
44	1394.35	*	47	1441.35
67			48	
68	1689.95			1689.95
71			48	
72			45.6	
73			53	
75B			51.3	
76			88.3	
78A	1252	*	57	1309
97	1416.885		48.05	1464.935
108			45	
109			44	
110			40.5	
111A	1456.6	*	64.5	1521.1
123			43.5	
124			44.15	
127			43.15	
141			54	
151B	1262.15	*	46.85	1309
154			53.5	
166	1406	*	57.5	1463.5
167	1311.5	*	51	1362.5
185			54.4	
186			36.1	
190B			51.7	
193	1368.2	*	48.75	1416.95
221	1334.15	*	51.85	1386
246	1222.75		46.1	1268.85
252			53.45	
259			48.335	
271			49	
277	1319.3	*	48.85	1368.15
283	1375.65	*	50.2	1425.85
285	1468.3		54.6	1522.9
312			45.05	
318A	1282	*	48	1330
336			49	
339	1258.5		47.5	1306
340A			41.5	
343			54.7	
370			56	
379	1233	*	42.95	1275.95
429B	1276	*	48.5	1324.5
442	1209.5		43	1252.5
456	1082.5		38.5	1121
488			42.435	
496	1245	*	46.5	1291.5
502	1291.5		39.5	1331

* missing 1 to 7 days of data

A degree day is defined as a measure of the departure of temperature for a day from some reference temperature. They are expressed in degrees of temperature. For plant growth, a base of 5°C is generally used, although the base varies for each plant species and, in fact, varies throughout the life of the plant from germination to maturity. By accumulating degree days throughout the growing season, it is possible to forecast harvesting dates.

Weekly Rainfall Summary

(in millimeters)

for the week ending September 13, 2008

Crop Municipality	Past	Since	Crop Municipality	Past	Since	Crop Municipality	Past	Since
Dist. No. Name	Week	April 1	Dist. No. Name	Week	April 1	Dist. No. Name	Week	April 1
1A 1 Argyle	13	315	107 Lac Pelletier	12	269	344 Corman Park	NIL	151
2 Mount Pleasant	10	318	108 Bone Creek	20	426	345 Vanscoy	NIL	217
3 Enniskillen	11	344	138 Webb	18	366	346 Perdue	N/A	236 *
33A Moose Creek	7	276	165 Morse	N/A	257 *	376 A Eagle Creek	N/A	186 *
33B Moose Creek	2	321	166 Excelsior	NIL	352	376 B Eagle Creek	4	188
34 Browning	N/A	265 *	167 Sask. Landing	NIL	373	403 Rosthern	3	201
61 Antler	N/A	220 *	168 Riverside	NIL	387	259 Snipe Lake	NIL	238
64 Brock	1	302	226 Victory	NIL	232	287 St. Andrews	NIL	173
65 Tecumseh	3	285	228 A Lacadena	NIL	238	288 Pleasant Valley	NIL	191
91 Maryfield	10	376	228 B Lacadena	NIL	236	292 Milton	NIL	322
92 Walpole	NIL	326	255 Coteau	N/A	178 *	317 A Marriott	N/A	188 *
93 Wawken	NIL	335	4A 49 White Valley	N/A	254 *	317 B Marriott	NIL	169
94 Hazelwood	1	376	49 A White Valley	14	251	318 A Mountain View	NIL	245
95 Golden West	3	332	51 Reno	14	248	318 B Mountain View	NIL	235
121 Moosomin	N/A	391 *	79 Arlington	17	274	320 Oakdale	NIL	289
122 Martin	N/A	376 *	109 Carmichael	17	337	321 Prairiedale	NIL	318
123 Silverwood	NIL	301	110 Piapot	10	336	7B 347 A Biggar	TR	248
124 Kestley	NIL	389	111 A Maple Creek	9	293	347 B Biggar	NIL	192
125 Chester	N/A	320 *	111 B Maple Creek	13	330	350 A Mariposa	NIL	240
151 A Rocanville	N/A	277 *	4B 139 Gulf Lake	8	316	350 B Mariposa	1	224
151 B Rocanville	TR	340	141 Big Stick	12	326	351 Progress	N/A	379 *
153 Willowdale	NIL	320	142 Enterprise	5	311	352 Heart's Hill	4	379
154 Elcapo	NIL	416	169 Pittville	N/A	293 *	377 Glenside	N/A	217 *
155 Wolseley	NIL	323	231 Happyland	3	275	378 A Rosemount	1	215
2A 36 Cymri	3	276	232 Deer Forks	19	331	378 B Rosemount	4	234
66 Griffin	N/A	319 *	183 Fertile Belt	N/A	358 *	379 Reford	2	169
67 Weyburn	TR	305	184 Grayson	NIL	294	380 Tramping Lake	6	183
68 Brokenshell	TR	274	185 Mcleod	1	330	381 Grass Lake	N/A	248 *
69 Norton	2	318	186 Abernethy	NIL	293	382 Eye Hill	TR	367
96 Fillmore	NIL	350	211 Churchbridge	TR	335	409 Buffalo	1	237
97 Wellington	2	257	213 Saltcoats	NIL	287	410 Round Valley	N/A	208 *
99 Caledonia	TR	258	216 A Tullymet	NIL	289	411 Senlac	N/A	325 *
2B 126 Montmartre	1	374	216 B Tullymet	N/A	172	395 Porcupine	N/A	206 *
127 Francis	1	328	241 Calder	NIL	314	397 Barrier Valley	2	191
129 Bratt's Lake	NIL	215	243 Wallace	8	347	398 Pleasantdale	3	182
131 Baildon	TR	234	245 A Garry	N/A	233 *	428 Star City	N/A	215
156 A Indian Head	4	286	245 B Garry	N/A	296 *	456 Arborfield	1	260
157 South Qu'Appelle	N/A	206	246 Ituna Bon Accord	TR	260	457 Connaught	2	140
158 Edenwold	0	313	247 Kellross	NIL	284	458 Willow Creek	NIL	155
160 Pense	NIL	258	248 Touchwood	N/A	243 *	486 Moose Range	1	225
161 Moose Jaw	NIL	254	5B 271 Cote	2	268	487 Nipawin	2	236
191 Marquis	NIL	284	273 Sliding Hills	4	228	8B 369 St. Peter	N/A	155 *
3ASE 9 Surprise Valley	5	306	275 Insinger	N/A	254 *	370 Humboldt	NIL	214
38 A Laurier	1	346	276 Foam Lake	3	333	371 Bayne	1	172
38 B Laurier	1	275	277 Emerald	1	264	372 Grant	TR	187
39 A The Gap	N/A	292 *	304 Buchanan	4	396	373 Aberdeen	N/A	22 *
39 B The Gap	2	263	307 Elfros	4	330	400 Three Lakes	NIL	242
3ASW 10 Happy Valley	6	262	308 Big Quill	N/A	140 *	402 Fish Creek	4	198
12 Poplar Valley	11	301	333 Clayton	N/A	281 *	429 A Flett's Springs	0	136
40 Bengough	4	288	335 Hazel Dell	NIL	327	429 B Flett's Springs	2	211
42 Willow Bunch	7	256	336 Sasman	3	249	431 St. Louis	2	195
43 A Old Post	8	243	337 Lakeview	N/A	227	459 Kinistino	N/A	197 *
43 B Old Post	N/A	198 *	338 Lakeside	N/A	229	488 Torch River	NIL	269
44 Waverley	3	269	366 Kelvington	TR	268	520 Paddockwood	16	170
70 Key West	N/A	275 *	367 B Ponass Lake	N/A	150 *	9AW 405 Great Bend	N/A	115 *
71 A Excel	2	276	6A 189 Lumsden	TR	369	406 Mayfield	NIL	215
71 B Excel	N/A	285 *	190 A Dufferin	1	247	435 Redberry	3	290
71 C Excel	N/A	300 *	190 B Dufferin	NIL	236	436 Douglas	NIL	165
72 Lake Of The Rivers	6	241	190 C Dufferin	NIL	287	463 Duck Lake	NIL	222
73 A Stonehenge	NIL	263	219 B Longlaketon	NIL	262	464 Leask	NIL	257
73 B Stonehenge	2	297	219 C Longlaketon	NIL	270	466 Meeting Lake	NIL	227
74 Wood River	4	54	220 Mckillop	NIL	226	467 Round Hill	NIL	260
3AN 101 Terrell	NIL	239	221 Sarnia	0	276	493 Shellbrook	8	185
102 Lake Johnston	1	211	222 Craik	TR	297	494 Canwood	1	249
103 Sutton	3	270	251 Big Arm	1	285	496 Spiritwood	NIL	242
132 Hillsborough	NIL	245	252 Arm River	NIL	218	497 Medstead	NIL	266
134 Shamrock	N/A	300 *	279 A Mount Hope	1	302	555 Big River	N/A	218 *
164 Chaplin	N/A	253 *	279 B Mount Hope	N/A	227 *	9B 438 Battle River	TR	207
193 Eyebrow	NIL	264	280 Wrexford	1	280	440 Hillsdale	1	246
194 Enfield	NIL	257	282 McCreaney	N/A	296 *	442 Manitou Lake	4	285
3BS 17 A Val Marie	N/A	339 *	309 Prairie Rose	NIL	301	498 A Parkdale	NIL	229
17 B Val Marie	14	225	312 Morris	NIL	245	498 B Parkdale	N/A	207 *
45 Mankota	7	296	313 Lost River	N/A	244 *	499 Mervin	TR	291
75 A Pinto Creek	5	261	339 Leroy	8	213	501 A Frenchman Butte	N/A	220 *
75 B Pinto Creek	5	284	340 A Wolverine	5	250	501 B Frenchman Butte	NIL	266
76 A Auvergne	8	264	340 B Wolverine	N/A	236 *	501 C Frenchman Butte	2	264
76 B Auvergne	8	322	341 Viscount	N/A	214 *	502 Britannia	TR	281
77 Wise Creek	13	322	343 Blucher	2	270	561 Loon Lake	NIL	226
78 A Grassy Creek	18	384	283 Rosedale	TR	213	588 A Meadow Lake	N/A	180 *
78 B Grassy Creek	16	312	284 Rudy	TR	265	588 B Meadow Lake	N/A	231 *
78 C Grassy Creek	17	355	285 Fertile Valley	NIL	215	588 C Meadow Lake	NIL	325
105 Glenbain	5	280	286 Mildren	7	204	588 D Meadow Lake	N/A	324 *
106 Whiska Creek	7	298	314 Dundurn	N/A	234 *	622 Beaver River	N/A	156 *

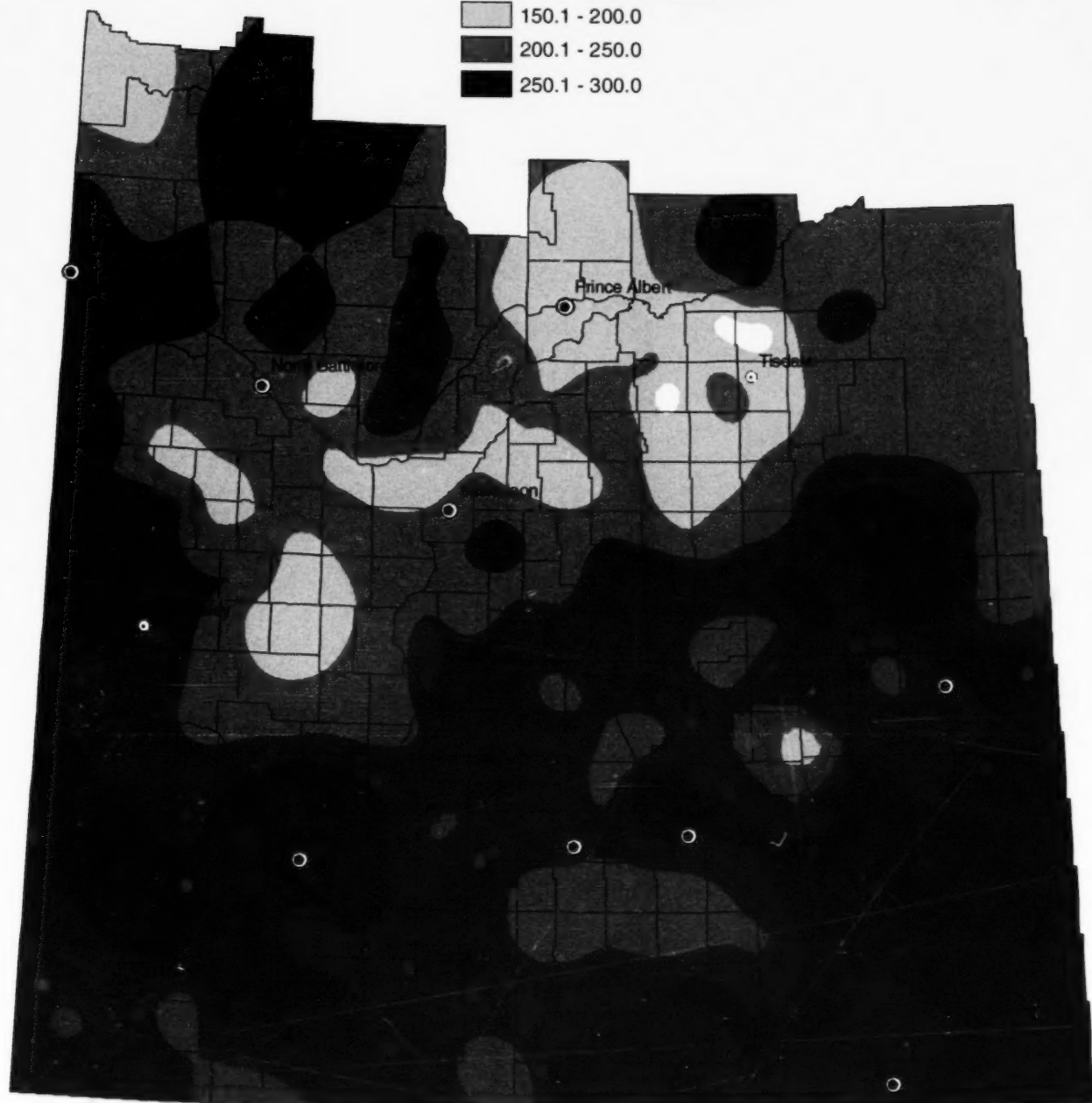
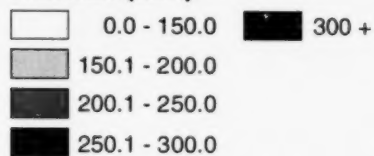
These precipitation amounts represent point locations within each municipality and do not necessarily reflect the whole R.M.

* incomplete

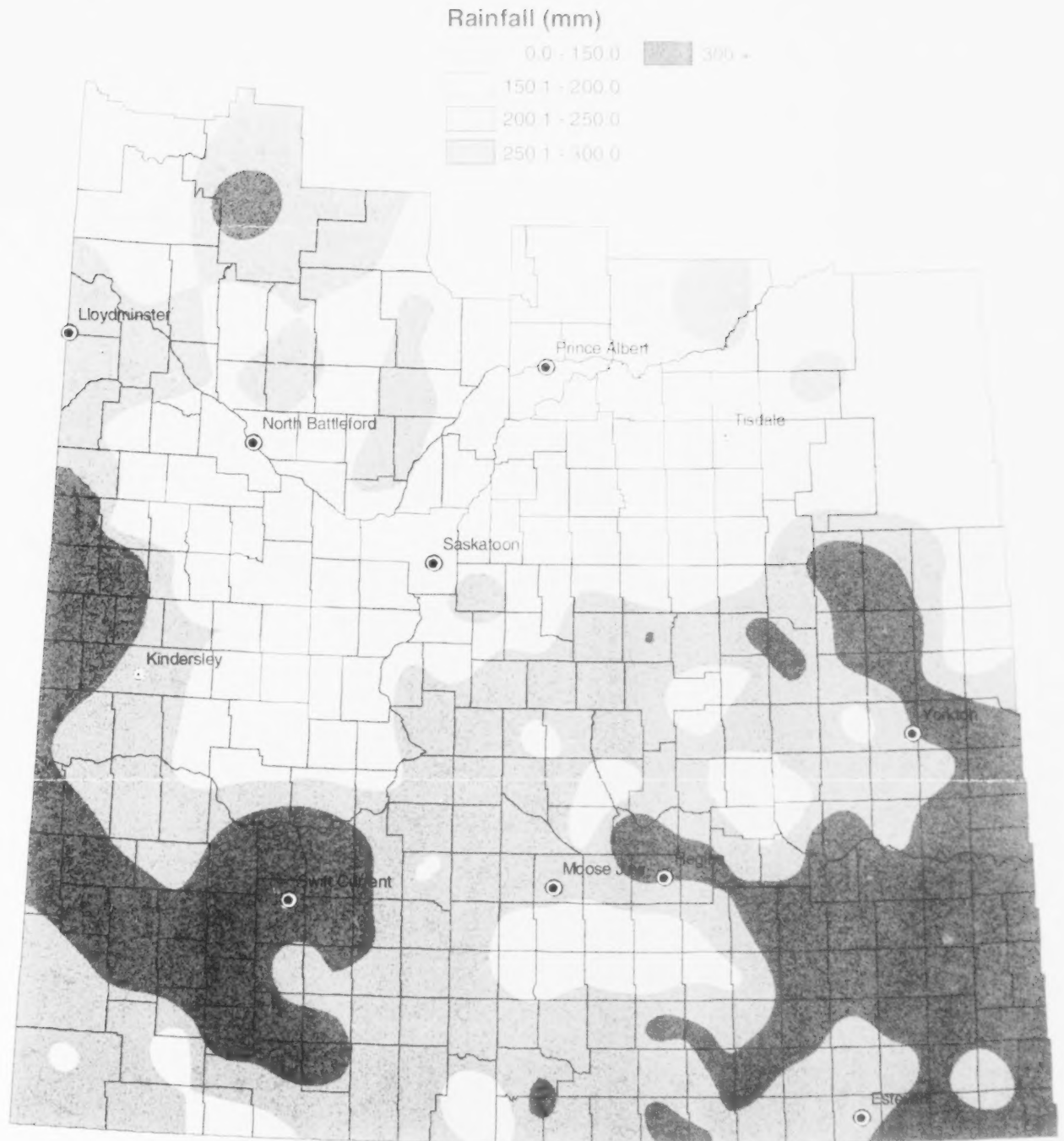
Municipality No: A, B, C, and D - more than one reporter

Cumulative Rainfall
From: April 1, 2008
To: September 13, 2008

Rainfall (mm)



Cumulative Rainfall
From: April 1, 2008
To: September 13, 2008



Crop Districts and Rural Municipalities

